

said material comprising a particulate blended with a polymer, said particulate being substantially physically immobilized by said polymer,

each of said sides having a coating of said material substantially equal in thickness and wherein the outer surface of said membrane has a porous and selectively permeable skin, and wherein less of said particulate is disposed near said skin than is disposed further in the interior of said membrane.

47 (New). The membrane of Claim 46 wherein the majority of said particles have a diameter less than about 20  $\mu\text{m}$ .

48 (New). The membrane of Claim 46 wherein said membrane comprises a contoured sheet.

49 (New). The membrane of Claim 48 wherein said membrane comprises a rippled sheet.

50 (New). The membrane of Claim 48 wherein said membrane comprises a pleated sheet.

51 (New). The membrane of claim 46 further comprising a coating of hydrophilizing agent.

52 (New). The membrane of Claim 46 wherein said polymer is selected from the group consisting of polyurethane, polyvinylidene fluoride, cellulose acetate, polyvinyl chloride and ethylene vinyl alcohol copolymer.

53 (New). The membrane of Claim 46 comprising between about 5% and 30% of said polymeric material.

54 (New). The membrane of Claim 46 comprising about 70% by weight of said particulate material.

55 (New). The membrane of Claim 46 wherein said support comprises a polyester mesh material.

56 (New). A flexible, composite sheet membrane comprising:  
a flat sheet polymeric support, said support comprising a first side and a second side,

at least one of said first or second sides comprising a first coating of a particulate blended with a polymer, said particulate being substantially physically immobilized by said polymer, and  
a second coating of a hydrophilizing agent.

57 (New). The membrane of Claim 56 wherein the majority of said particles have a diameter less than about 20  $\mu$ m.

58 (New). The membrane of Claim 56 wherein said membrane comprises a contoured sheet.

59 (New). The membrane of Claim 58 wherein said membrane comprises a rippled sheet.

60 (New). The membrane of Claim 58 wherein said membrane comprises a pleated sheet.

61 (New). The membrane of Claim 56 wherein less of said particulate is disposed near said skin than is disposed further in the interior of said membrane.

62 (New). The membrane of Claim 56 wherein said polymer is selected from the group consisting of polyurethane, polyvinylidene fluoride, cellulose acetate, polyvinyl chloride and ethylene vinyl alcohol copolymer.

63 (New). The membrane of Claim 56 comprising between about 5% and 30% of said polymeric material.

64 (New). The membrane of Claim 56 comprising about 70% by weight of said particulate material.

65 (New). The membrane of Claim 56 wherein said support comprises a polyester mesh material.

66 (New). A flexible, composite sheet membrane comprising:  
a flat sheet polymeric support,  
a first coating of a non-fiberized polymeric material, said material comprising a particulate blended with a polymer, said particulate being substantially physically immobilized by said polymer, and

a selectively permeable and porous skin on the outer surface of said membrane, said membrane formed, in part, by:

introducing said support into a chamber including said polymeric material, said chamber having a wide opening, a pair of converging walls terminating in a narrow passageway of a predetermined length and an exit gap, and

passing said support through said chamber at the rate of approximately 1-4 ft/min.